

110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2787

To amend the National Manufactured Housing Construction and Safety Standards Act of 1974 to require that weather radios be installed in all manufactured homes manufactured or sold in the United States.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 20, 2007

Mr. ELLSWORTH (for himself, Ms. GRANGER, and Mr. MOORE of Kansas) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Financial Services

A BILL

To amend the National Manufactured Housing Construction and Safety Standards Act of 1974 to require that weather radios be installed in all manufactured homes manufactured or sold in the United States.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “CJ’s Home Protection
5 Act of 2007”.

6 **SEC. 2. CONGRESSIONAL FINDINGS.**

7 The Congress finds that—

1 (1) nearly 20,000,000 Americans live in manu-
2 factured homes, which often provide a more acces-
3 sible and affordable way for many families to buy
4 their own homes;

5 (2) manufactured housing plays a vital role in
6 providing housing for low- and moderate-income
7 families in the United States;

8 (3) according to the Economic Statistics Report
9 from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Admin-
10 istration in April 2006 (5th Edition), residents of
11 mobile homes remain at risk from tornados, as over
12 40 percent of resulting fatalities occur in mobile
13 homes, and the fatality rate for residents of mobile
14 homes is more than 10 times greater than that for
15 residents of permanent homes;

16 (4) NOAA Weather Radio (NWR) is a nation-
17 wide network of radio stations broadcasting contin-
18 uous weather information directly from a nearby Na-
19 tional Weather Service (NWS) office, and broadcasts
20 NWS warnings, watches, forecasts, and other all-
21 hazard information 24 hours a day;

22 (5) the operator of a mobile home community
23 should be encouraged to provide a safe place of shel-
24 ter for park residents or a plan for the evacuation
25 of park residents to a safe place of shelter within a

1 reasonable distance of the park for use by park resi-
2 dents in times of severe weather, including tornadoes
3 and high winds; and local municipalities should be
4 encouraged to require approval of these plans;

5 (6) twice each year, when Americans change
6 their clocks for daylight savings, the operator of a
7 mobile home community should be encouraged to
8 provide a written reminder to the owners of all man-
9 ufactured homes in the mobile home community to
10 replace the batteries in all weather radios and smoke
11 detectors contained in their manufactured homes;
12 and

13 (7) weather radio manufacturers should include,
14 in the packaging of weather radios, a written re-
15 minder to replace the batteries twice each year and
16 written instructions on how to do so.

17 **SEC. 3. FEDERAL MANUFACTURED HOME CONSTRUCTION**
18 **AND SAFETY STANDARD.**

19 Section 604 of the National Manufactured Housing
20 Construction and Safety Standards Act of 1974 (42
21 U.S.C. 5403) is amended by adding at the end the fol-
22 lowing new subsection:

23 “(h) WEATHER RADIOS.—

24 “(1) CONSTRUCTION AND SAFETY STAND-
25 ARD.—The Federal manufactured home construction

1 and safety standards established by the Secretary
2 under this section shall require that each manufac-
3 tured home delivered for sale shall be supplied with
4 a weather radio inside the manufactured home
5 that—

6 “(A) is capable of broadcasting emergency
7 information relating to local weather conditions;

8 “(B) is equipped with a tone alarm;

9 “(C) is equipped with Specific Alert Mes-
10 sage Encoding, or SAME technology; and

11 “(D) complies with Consumer Electronics
12 Association (CEA) Standard 2009–A (or cur-
13 rent revision thereof) Performance Specification
14 for Public Alert Receivers.

15 “(2) LIABILITY PROTECTION.—Any reminder,
16 assistance, or instructions provided by an operator
17 of a mobile home community concerning the function
18 of a weather radio or smoke detector contained in a
19 manufactured home shall not subject the operator,
20 an owner or employee of the mobile home commu-
21 nity, or the mobile home manufacturer to liability
22 for the functionality of that weather radio or smoke
23 detector.”.

1 **SEC. 4. ESTABLISHMENT.**

2 The Secretary of Housing and Urban Development
3 shall establish the Federal manufactured home construc-
4 tion and safety standard required by the amendment made
5 by section 3 of this Act by order in accordance with section
6 604(b)(5) of the National Manufactured Housing Con-
7 struction and Safety Standards Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C.
8 5403(b)(5)), which shall take effect as provided in section
9 604(c) of such Act.

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